

Reply to the Office Action of June 14, 2005
Response Dated September 14, 2005

Attorney Docket No.: CSCO-006/2879
Appl. No.: 09/910,936

REMARKS

Claims 1-27 were examined in the outstanding office action dated June 14 2005 (hereafter "OutstandingOfficeAction"). All claims were rejected. The specification and drawings have been objected to. By virtue of this amendment, the specification and claims 1-3, 5, 6, 8-10, 12-16, 18-22, 24, 25 and 27 are sought to be amended. The amendments are believed not to introduce new matter and their entry is respectfully requested. Reconsideration is requested further in view of the below remarks.

Specification

In point 1 on page 2 of the Outstanding Office Action, the applicant was requested to provide the serial number and the filing date for the related application mentioned in page 2 of the specification. The corresponding paragraph is sought to be amended to include the requested information. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

In point 2 on page of the Outstanding Office Action, the disclosure was objected to as containing embedded hyperlinks. The specification is sought to be amended to remove the hyperlinks in several instances. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Various other portions of the specification are also sought to be amended to correct typographical errors.

Drawings

The drawings were objected to noting that "380" in line 13 of page 10 of the specification was not shown in the drawings. The objection is rendered moot since "reformatter 380" in that paragraph is sought to be replaced by "forwarding and NAT block 350", consistent with the drawings. Withdrawal of the objection with respect to the drawings is respectfully requested.

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Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

5 In point 5 of pages of 4 and 5 of the Outstanding Office Action, claims 1_27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Applicants wish to first thank the Examiner for the detailed examination as well for suggesting the corrections in several instances.

10 Claim 1 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 noting that there is insufficient antecedent basis for the term "said forwarding information". Claim 1 is sought to be amended to replace "a routing information" with "a forwarding information", providing the necessary antecedent basis for "said forwarding information". Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112 with respect to claim 1 is respectfully requested.

15 Claims 8, 14, and 20 were also rejected for similar reasons, and these claims are also sought to be amended similar to as explained above with respect to claim 1. Withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112 with respect to claims 8, 14 and 20 is also respectfully requested.

20 Claim 5 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 noting that "said maintaining" lacks antecedent basis. Claim 5 is sought to be accordingly amended to depend from claim 2, which recites the feature of "maintaining". The amendment therefore provides the necessary antecedent basis, and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112 with
25 respect to claim 5 is respectfully requested.

Claims 18 was also rejected under similar reasoning, and claim 18 is sought to be amended to depend from claim 15, providing the necessary antecedent basis. Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112 with respect to claim 18 is respectfully requested.

30 Claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 noting that "the address space" lacks antecedent basis. The rejection is rendered moot since the term "address space" is sought

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to be deleted by the foregoing amendments. In addition, claim 6 is sought to be amended to recite "a first set of addresses", "a second set of addresses", and "..., wherein said first set of addresses and said second set of addresses do not overlap". Thus, the necessary antecedent basis is believed to be present in the terms present in the amended claims, and
5 withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112 with respect to claim 6 is respectfully requested.

Claims 13, 19 and 25 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 for similar reasons. Claims 13 and 19 are also sought to be amended similar to claim 6. Withdrawal of the
10 rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112 with respect to claims 13, 19 and 25, is respectfully requested.

Claim 10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 noting that the terms "said memory means" and "said single table" lack sufficient antecedent basis. As suggested by the
15 Examiner, claim 10 is sought to be amended to depend from claim 9, thereby providing the necessary antecedent basis for "said single table". In addition, the term "said memory means" is sought to be replaced by "a memory means", thereby rendering the rejection moot. Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112 with respect to claim 10 is respectfully requested.

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Claim 12 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 noting that the term "said memory means" lacks sufficient antecedent basis. Claim 12 is sought to be amended to depend from claim 10, and the term "a memory means" of claim 10 provides the necessary antecedent basis. Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112 with respect to
25 claim 12 is respectfully requested.

Claim 27 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 noting that the term "said memory units" lacks sufficient antecedent basis. The term "said memory units" is sought to be replaced by "a plurality of memory units", thereby rendering the rejection moot.
30 Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112 with respect to claim 27 is respectfully requested.

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Thus, all the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112 are believed to be overcome.

Claim Rejections _ 35 USC §§ 102 and 103

5 Claims 1_2, 8_9, 14_15, and 20_21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by March et al (2003/0007486). Claims 3_4, 7, 10_11, 16_17, and 22_23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over March in view of McClure (6,496,439) and Michels et al (6,678,269).

10 Applicants swear behind March as provided under 37 CFR § 1.131 entitled "Affidavit or Declaration of prior invention" by submitting a declaration (hereafter "declaration") according to the procedure further outlined in 37 CFR § 131(b) and MPEP § 715. As noted there, one of the ways to swear behind requires a showing:

(A) Conception of the invention prior to the effective date of the reference

15 (B) Coupled with due diligence from prior to the reference date to the filing date of the application (constructive reduction to practice).

The above two requirements are believed to be satisfied by the attached declaration and exhibits, further in view of the below remarks.

20 **Declaration by Fewer than All Inventors**

It is pointed out that the declaration offered to prove conception and reduction to practice prior to the reference date of June 14, 2001 (explained below), is signed only by one inventor Mr. Amit Phadnis, but not by the remaining joint inventors Praneet BACHHETI and Anuradha KARUPPIAH.

25 As noted in MPEP § 715.04.I (entitled, "WHO MAY MAKE AFFIDAVIT OR DECLARATION"), "... where it is shown that a joint inventor ... is otherwise unavailable, the signatures of the remaining joint inventors are sufficient."

30 MPEP § 409.03(d) provides additional guidance on establishing how an inventor cannot be reached as a basis for the unavailability requirement.

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Points 8-12 of the attached affidavit by the undersigned representative (Narendra Thappeta) clearly establishes that inventors Praneet BACHHETI and Anuradha KARUPPIAH cannot be reached (and thus are unavailable to sign), and accordingly it is respectfully requested that the declaration under 37 CFR § 131 signed only by the
5 available inventor (Mr. Amit Phadnis) be accepted to swear behind the reference.

In the alternative, it is respectfully requested that the attached affidavit by the undersigned representative (Narendra Thappeta) be accepted for the purpose of the necessary showing.

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Reference Date to Overcome

It is noted that March has a filing date of June 14, 2001 with the US Patent Office thus the reference date to be overcome is believed to be the US filing date of June 14, 2001.

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Conception

The enclosed affidavit signed by Mr. Amit Phadnis, along with the supporting Exhibits, establishes the conception of the invention of at least claim 1 prior to the reference date to be overcome. In particular points 2-6 of the affidavit of Mr. Amit
20 Phadnis establish that the invention of at least claim 1 was clearly conceived by the inventor prior to the reference date.

In the alternative or in addition, points 2-4 of the affidavit by the Undersigned Representative, establish the date of conception of at least claims 1 and 2 prior to the
25 reference date to be overcome. As a basis for assertion, it is noted that the MPEP § 715.07.I (entitled, "Facts and Documentary Evidence [R-2]: General Requirements" appears to permit reliance on "F. Attached supporting statements of witnesses, where verbal disclosures are the evidence relied upon..."

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Diligence

The enclosed affidavits of Mr. Amit Phadnis and the undersigned representative (Narendra Thappeta) establish diligence from prior to the reference date to the filing date of the application (constructive reduction to practice).

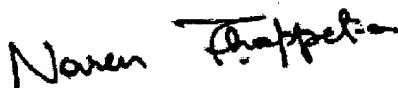
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Conclusion

Accordingly, it is respectfully asserted that the March reference is not effective prior art under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 as against the subject patent application. Withdrawal of the outstanding rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 is respectfully
10 requested.

Thus, all the objections and rejections are believed to be overcome and all the presented claims are in condition for allowance over the art of record. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned representative if it is believed that an interview
15 might be useful for any reason.

Respectfully submitted,



Date: September 14, 2005

Narendra Reddy Thappeta
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